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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year 1957

BY

J. L. HUNTER
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

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PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman:

ALDERMAN S. WALKER

THE MAYOR (Councillor J. Askew)

Councillor E. BARRACLOUGH.

„ J. F. BIGGINS.

„ E. GRAHAM.

„ MRS. B. O. McKEATING.

„ H. H. McMANUS.

„ J. McD. MOORE.

„ T. MITCHELL.

„ MRS. M. A. SMITH.

„ MRS. A. B. THOMAS.

„ D. VICKERS.

„ A. YOUNG.

Staff of the Public Health Department

James L. Hunter, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. ...	Medical Officer of Health.
R. E. Fletcher, M.B., Ch.B.	Deputy Medical Officer of Health.
§*Richard James	Chief Public Health Inspector.
§*Patrick J. Eldon	Assistant Public Health Inspector. (Resigned—February, 1957).
*Charles E. Pearson ...	Assistant Public Health Inspector.
Mrs. E. D. Brayton ...	Chief Clerk.
Miss N. Menhams	Junior Clerk.

* Certificate of R.S.I. and Sanitary Inspectors' Joint Board.

§ Certificate of Meat and Other Foods (R.S.I.).

TOWN HALL,
WORKINGTON,
July 22nd, 1958.

TO THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR,
THE ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE
BOROUGH OF WORKINGTON

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report as your Medical Officer of Health for the year 1957. The report is prepared according to the Ministry of Health Circular 1/58.

The total incidence of notifiable infectious disease was comparatively light. No case of food-poisoning was reported during the year and only two cases of dysentery were notified. Measles however, continued from the preceding year into the first quarter of 1957 to a total of nearly 700 more cases, tailing off in the second quarter to a mere few. A sudden epidemic of mild Influenza, quickly popularised by the term "Asiatic", spread first quickly among pre-school and school-children with a later incidence in adults. This wave merged into the seasonal upper respiratory infection commonly called "Influenza". There were six deaths ascribed to Influenzal Broncho-Pneumonia.

Poliomyelitis held its hand during a period when active steps were being taken in registration of chidren for the expected large scale vaccinations. In actual fact only 185 children were inoculated against the disease during the year. At the time of writing however, the position has been transformed—the majority of children registered and born between the years 1943 to 1957 having been vaccinated.

The leeway of 1956 in anti-diphtheria protection was not made up during the year and the Immunity Index fell from 61 per cent to 56 per cent. It is hoped that the beginning and extension of the programme in poliomyelitis vaccination will not further jeopardise the position.

The vital statistics for the year were again satisfactory, including a higher birth-rate and a reasonably low Infantile Mortality Rate. The death-rate was, however, increased—mainly by heavier incidence in heart and circulatory diseases. There were three deaths from motor vehicle accidents, eight from other accidental causes and two deaths by suicide.

The resident population increased by 130 to 29,200. The total live births numbered 533, giving a high birth-rate of 17.8 (adjusted) as compared to 16.1 for England and Wales. There were 14 still-births during the year. Deaths, as already indicated, also increased: there was a total of 344 giving a

death-rate of 13.9 as compared to 11.5 for England and Wales. The chief causes of death were diseases of the heart and circulation (50%), cancer (19%), and diseases of the chest, including influenzal broncho-pneumonia (8%). Three adult males died of tuberculosis, a low figure, but one death more than the record low figure of 1956.

The number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register has not fallen but the combined advances in ascertainment, prevention and treatment should eventually be reflected in falling notification. A full programme of B.C.G. vaccination against Tuberculosis was carried out in 13—14 year old school-children.

It was not, however, possible to effect the same amount of preventive work by diphtheria immunisation.

It was a lean year from the point of view of new houses—20 were built by the Local Authority and 28 privately. However, the needs of persons in the sub-standard houses were not forgotten. There is a steady representation of individual houses unfit for human habitation: during 1957 26 were so represented. Seven families were also re-housed because of a case of tuberculosis in the home.

The subject of cancer of the lung has been much to the fore both in the medical and in the national press. Some space is devoted to this in the section given to Cancer. The Local Health Authority undertook to present suitable talks to youth on the subject in the various works, employing a high percentage of young people.

The year was a particularly busy one for a reduced staff. The shortage of one full-time Public Health Inspector has meant the curtailment of many aspects of sanitary work, this being particularly reflected in visits made to food premises. In times of stress, with a great variety of duties, it is difficult to assess priorities, but it has been taken as axiomatic that ordinary sanitary complaints from householders and investigation of infectious disease should rank foremost in the long list.

My grateful thanks are due to the Public Health Committee for their consideration and support during the year, to all the Staff of the Public Health Department, and to my colleagues in the medical profession who have given me much information during the year.

I am,
Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
J. L. HUNTER,
Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

SOCIAL AND STATISTICAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

1.—General.

(a) There have been no major changes in the state of employment in the town during the year.

Although much remains to be done in the improvement of housing conditions of the people the number of sub-standard dwellings shows a gradual decrease, despite the fact that no new houses are at present being built by the Corporation.

(b) Area in Acres	5,644
Population (Registrar-General's Estimate of Residents—mid-year, 1957)	29,200
Number of inhabited houses according to Rate Books at the end of 1957	8,770
Rateable Value	£280,737
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£1,068

2.—Vital Statistics.

Births.

Live Births:—	*Males.*	*Females.*	*Total.*
Legitimate	280	239	519
Illegitimate	8	6	14
Total	288	245	533

Birth Rate per 1,000 Population	18.3
Adjusted Birth Rate	17.8

Still Births:—	*Males.*	*Females.*	*Total.*
Legitimate	5	8	13
Illegitimate	1	—	1
Total	6	8	14

Rate per 1,000 Live Births	26.3

Deaths.

	Males.	*Females.*	*Total.*
Deaths (all ages)	207	137	344
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 Population			11.7
Adjusted Death Rate			13.9

Deaths from individual causes:—	
Tuberculosis	3
Cancer	65
Maternity	Nil
Measles	Nil
Whooping Cough	Nil
Deaths of Infants under 1 year (Legitimate 13; Illegitimate, 1)	14
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year— per 1,000 Live Births	26,2
Infantile Death Rate per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births	25.0
Illegitimate Live Births	71.4

3.—Notes and Comparisons on Vital Statistics.

Births.

Live Birth Rate:—	1957	1956
Workington (Crude)	18.3	16.7
Workington (Adjusted)	17.8	16.2
Urban Districts of Cumberland	18.8	17.5
Rural Districts of Cumberland	17.3	16.5
County of Cumberland	17.9	16.9
England and Wales	16.1	15.7

The birth-rate in Workington has again increased, being now 2.6 higher than in 1955.

Deaths

The comparative Death Rates were:—

	1957	1956
Workington (Crude)	11.7	10.7
Workington (Adjusted)	13.9	12.7
Urban Districts of Cumberland	12.2	12.3
Rural Districts of Cumberland	12.1	12.1
County of Cumberland	12.1	12.2
England and Wales	11.5	12.2

Deaths outpaced proportionately the increase in population with the result that the adjusted death-rate was 1.2 higher in 1957 than in 1956: it was also 2.4 higher than the figure for England and Wales. By cause of death the greatest increase was in diseases of the respiratory system in-

cluding six deaths from Influenza. Deaths from diseases of the heart and circulation and from all forms of cancer remained about the same.

The chief causes of death were:—

Diseases of the Heart and Circulation	173 (50.3%)
Cancer	65 (18.9%)
Bronchitis and Pneumonia (Influenzal, 6)	26 (7.6%)
Accident and Suicide	13 (3.8%)

There were no maternal deaths.

The number of deaths from all forms of tuberculosis was 3 as compared to 2 in 1956: the death-rate per 1,000 population was 0.10 as compared to 0.06 in 1956.

The Infantile Mortality Rate (14 deaths) was 26.2 as compared to 26.7 in 1956.

The following tables I and II show (a) the age at death of all cases, and (b) the cause of death:—

TABLE 1

The Age at Death of Workington Residents—1957

Age Groups	Under 1 yr.	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—25	25—35	35—45	45—55	55—65	65—75	75 & Over	Total
Males	7	1		1					2	1	4	20	45	60	66	207
Females	7		1			1		1	1	3	3	9	16	41	54	137
Total	14	1	1	1		1		1	3	4	7	29	61	101	120	344

TABLE 2

Registrar-General's Table of Deaths. Workington M.B.— 1957.

Cause of Death.	*Males.*	*Females.*	*Total.*
Tuberculosis, respiratory	3	—	3
Other infective disease	—	1	1
Cancer, stomach	5	4	9
Cancer, lung	15	1	16
Cancer, breast	—	6	6
Cancer, uterus	—	5	5
Other malignant disease	21	8	29
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	2	1	3
Diabetes	—	4	4
Vascular diseases of nervous system	30	20	50
Coronary disease, angina	42	21	63
Hypertension with heart disease	1	2	3
Other heart disease	28	23	51
Other circulatory disease	4	3	7
Influenza	4	2	6
Pneumonia	6	4	10
Bronchitis	6	4	10
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	2	2	4
Nephritis and nephrosis	2	2	4
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	—	2
Congenital malformations	1	3	4
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	23	18	41
Motor vehicle accidents	2	1	3
All other accidents	6	2	8
Suicide	2	—	2
Total (all causes)	207	137	344

4.—Infantile Deaths

Fourteen deaths occurred among children under one year. All the deaths occurred before the age of one month; indeed all but one took place in the first week. Prematurity and congenital defects accounted for eleven and the other three died because of difficulties at birth or injuries sustained during birth. Infection played no part in any of these deaths, even although new hazards to infants in hospital have been encountered recently in this country.

Thirteen deaths occurred in hospital and one in the home—an indication of anticipated difficulty at confinement The contraction of age at death to the narrow band of 0—3 weeks is also a reflection of good ante-natal care and good midwifery. The elucidation of the causes of prematurity and congenital defect still demand great study.

The Infantile Mortality was 26.2.

The tables below show (a) the figures of Infantile Mortality in Workington since 1911 in average quinquennial periods to 1955 and thereafter in single years to date, and (b) the distribution by age and cause of the fourteen deaths in 1957.

(a) Average Annual Infantile Mortality. (i.e. Deaths of Infants under 1 year per 1,000 Registered Live Births).

Period.	*Workington M.B.*	*England and Wales.*
1911—1915	135	110
1916—1920	113	90
1921—1925	102	76
1926—1930	76	68
1931—1935	70	62
1936—1940	63	55
1941—1945	52	50
1946—1950	41	36
1951—1955	29	27
1955	35.3	25.5
1956	26.7	23.8
1957	26.2	23.0

(b) Infantile Deaths shown by Ages and Cause of Death, 1957.

Causes of Death	Age in Weeks				Age in Months						Total Deaths
	1	1—2	2—3	3—4	1 Month	1—2	2—3	3—6	6—9	9—12	
Prematurity	5	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	5
Congenital Defect	5	—	1	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	6
Cerebral Haemorrhage and other injury at birth	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	3
	13	—	1		14	—	—	—	-	—	14

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

(a) Staff.

The Public Health Committee and the Staff of the Public Health Department are listed at the beginning of this report, (pages 3 and 4).

(b) Laboratory Services.

The examination of specimens of pathological material and of water samples (bacteriological and chemical) is undertaken by the Carlisle Laboratory of the Public Health Laboratory Service under the direction of Dr. D. G. Davies. The department is much indebted to his ever-ready advice on individual problems.

Twelve samples of drinking water were submitted for analysis and bacteriological examination. Among specimens submitted of infective material six specimens relating to Asiatic Influenza were sent.

Dr. Davies also acts as consultant for the diagnosis of Smallpox.

(c) Local Health Authority Services

The Cumberland County Council is the authority responsible for the School and Child Welfare Services, the Ambulance and Sitting-case Car Service, the Home Nursing and Midwifery Services, and the Home Help Services.

In relation to Workington (and the surrounding area) the following clinical sessions are held in Park Lane Clinic, Workington: —

Child Welfare—Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 2 p.m.

Diphtheria Immunisation—Wednesdays at 2 p.m.

School Clinic—daily at 9 a.m. A school doctor is in attendance on Tuesdays.

Midwives' Ante-natal Clinics—these are arranged by the Midwives.

Orthopaedic and After-care Orthopaedic sessions are held periodically, by appointment.

Orthoptic Clinic—on reference by eye specialist and by appointment.

Speech Therapy—by appointment on Mondays.

The individual preventive procedures now carried out in the School and Child Welfare Clinics (and in Schools) are

(i) vaccination against Smallpox.
(ii) inoculation against Diphtheria.
(iii) vaccination against Whooping Cough.
(iv) vaccination against Poliomyelitis.

These four procedures are also undertaken by general practitioners: in addition the Local Health Authority maintain a scheme for

(v) vaccination (B.C.G.) of 13—14 year old school children against Tuberculosis (B.C.G. vaccination of *contacts* of cases of disease is the responsibility of the Chest Physicians of the Regional Hospital Board).

Provision for the educational treatment of children suffering from handicapping conditions is made by the Local Health Authority either within the County (e.g. ascertainment and treatment of deafness, speech defect and educational subnormality), or without (e.g. by the placing of individual children in special schools in such special categories of the deaf, blind and epileptic).

(d) National Assistance Acts.

No proceedings were taken during the year under these Acts.

(e) Services of Regional Hospital Board.

General medical, surgical and obstetrical services are available in Workington Infirmary and other hospitals of the area. Special sessions for children of pre-school and school age in respect of conditions of the Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat are held (by appointment) in two hospitals, and also, by special arrangements, in a clinic of the local health authority.

(f) Port Health.

The Medical Officer of the Borough is also Medical Officer to the Port Health Authority. No case of infectious disease was reported or discovered on any of the 126 ships arriving in the port from foreign parts.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

The Chief Public Health Inspector, Mr. R. James, provides a report on individual Sanitary matters in the appendix to this report. Limitation in the sanitary cover of the town has been a natural consequence of shortage in Staff.

The Borough Surveyor and Water Engineer, Mr. Nelson Murray, has kindly provided certain information which is incorporated in the various sub-sections hereunder.

1. Housing.

No new contracts were let during the year. The number of houses completed by the Local Authority was 20. The number of houses built privately showed a slight increase from 17 in 1956 to 28 in 1957.

2. Water

The construction of a new 3-million gallon reservoir at Stainburn proceeded throughout the year. (The first half was taken into service on 22nd February, 1958).

Twelve water samples were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory and four to a Public Analyst during the year. The results were uniformly satisfactory both from the bacteriological and chemical aspects both before and after chlorination. However, the presence of iron in the water was, in some samples, commented upon, and in certain areas of the town a visible reddish deposit has been reported from time to time.

An average report of chemical and bacteriological content is here reproduced:—

Chemical.

Appearance in a 2 ft. tube	Clear and colourless.
pH.	6.5
	part per million.
Ammoniacal nitrogen	0.05
Albuminoid nitrogen	0.07
Oxygen absorbed from N/80 permanganate in 15 mins. at 27 degrees C.	0.12
Oxygen absorbed from N/80 permanganate in 4 hours at 27 degrees C.	0.32
Solids dried for 1 hour at 180 degrees C.	59

Hardness—Total	14.0
—Carbonate	2.0
—Non-carbonate	12.0
Chlorine present as chlorides	8.0
Heavy metals	0.0

Opinion: "This water is chemically satisfactory".

Bacteriological.

Probable number of coliform bacilli,
MacConkey 2 days, 37 degrees C. ... 0 per 100 ml.
Probable number of faecal coli 0 per 100 ml.
Remarks:—Classification—excellent.

3. Sewerage and Drainage.

No major sewerage or drainage works were carried out during the year.

4. Refuse, Collection and Disposal.

Collection.

No change of note occurred in methods of administration either in collection or disposal.

The issue of standard dustbins to all inhabited premises continued and (at 1-4-58) the results achieved were very satisfactory. A summary of the position for five years at 1-4-58 was:—

Issues.

According to the scheme (by area) ...	5,176
To new Corporation houses	228
To new privately built houses	143
Replacements (Corporation houses) ...	717
Replacements (private houses)	635
Total	6,899

The issue during 1958 will complete the primary objects of the scheme, that is, all householders will have had a new bin issued where required within a six year period. In addition reasonable replacement of old bins will have been effected.

A total of 14,046 tons (estimated on test weighing) of household refuse was collected during the year. This is an increase of some 3 thousand tons on the previous year partly at least accounted for by the generally colder weather experienced in 1957, resulting in more ash.

Disposal.

Although there may have been rather more ash in the refuse content paper continued to amount. Each new trade process and the fashion in covering of articles of food and other commodities adds to the burden in disposal. The baling of paper for sale barely pays its way but at least takes away from the tips some part of the volume to be disposed of there.

No tips were acquired during the year. The northern access road to Harrington was used only to a limited extent because of the need to renew work on a marshy part of the way and allow of its consolidation.

The net cost per ton, collection and disposal, was 37/1d., an increase of 3/7d. on the figure for 1956 but comparable to the figure of 37/2d. for 1955.

SECTION D.

1. Inspections of Dwelling-houses during the Year.

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	477
	(b)	Number of inspections made for this purpose	2515
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	Nil
	(b)	Number of inspections made for this purpose	Nil
(3)		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	26
(4)		Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation	451

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices :

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or other officers 432

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 12

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:

(a) By Owners 12

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners Nil

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 7

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:

(a) By Owners 7

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners Nil

(c) Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 25

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders 25

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made 1

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenements or underground rooms having been rendered fit Nil

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Shortage of staff has seriously impaired this very important section of Public Health work. Advertisements

to recruit qualified Public Health Inspectors have proved unsuccessful, and ever increasing calls in other directions have naturally resulted in lack of attention to various statutory duties.

The number of inspections made in connection with the Food Hygiene Regulations was 644, as compared with nearly 1,800 visits during 1956 when a most successful campaign was carried out in connection with food hygiene.

The following is a list of food premises in the Borough:—

Licensed Premises, Clubs and Temperance Hotels	89
Cafes, Snack Bars and Canteens	47
Butchers	28
Dairies	29
Grocers (Predominent Business)	65
Fruit and Vegetables (Predominent Business)	35
Fish	9
Fried Fish and Chips	28
Tripe	1
Bakers and Confectioners	39
Sweets	49
General (shops selling a variety of goods)	52
Brewers and Soft Drink Manufacturers	5
	476

Persons manufacturing or selling ice cream, or preparing or manufacturing sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food must have their premises registered with the Local Authority in accordance with Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. The number of such premises which is registered is 156—

Ice Cream	93
Preserved Food	63

The popularity of ice cream continues to increase. There are 5 manufacturers of ice cream within the Borough, 4 prepared by the "hot mix" method and 1 by the "cold mix" method.

Much of the ice cream sold by the 93 retailers is prepacked.

During the year an attempt was made to check the manufacture of iced lollipops, a popular commodity made by many shopkeepers. Sixteen samples were submitted for

bacteriological examination and all were returned satisfactory. Lollipops should be of a standard of purity at least equal to that of the water supply used in their production.

All milk now retailed in the Borough is bottled and is either tuberculin tested or pasteurised. The number of registered dairies is 22 and there are 31 registered purveyors of milk. The number of farms producing tubercular tested milk is 11.

The approximate weight of foodstuffs condemned during the year was 23 cwts., an increase of 2 cwts. as compared with the previous year. Condemned foodstuffs are collected and deposited on the refuse tip at the beginning of each working day to ensure complete coverage with refuse matter.

During the year 261 certificates were issued to various food vendors in respect of goods condemned by the Public Health Inspectors.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

1. Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) and Food Poisoning.

The main feature in infectious diseases during the year was the incidence of a new type or variety of influenza—the so-called Asiatic Influenza. The *only* form of Influenza at present notifiable is Influenzal Pneumonia but a fair estimate of the incidence of the general disease was possible from returns from schools and information from the general practitioners and the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance. The incidence was indeed heavy, in children early in the epidemic and later in adults. The disease itself was generally short-lived and mild. A vaccine was prepared in advance of the epidemic and was offered to selected groups liable to special risk, i.e. doctors, nurses and ambulance personnel.

One adult female aged 24 years and five persons over 60 years of age died of Influenzal Broncho-pneumonia. There were no deaths from this cause among children.

The incidence of *Measles* was three and a half times heavier than in 1956: there were no deaths. The incidence of other infectious diseases was light, and require no more mention than that given in the table below (Notification of Infectious Diseases, 1957).

Poliomyelitis.

No case was notified during the year. The tail of the 1956 outbreak in Cumberland finished in the north early in 1957.

The impetus to vaccination (by actual supplies of vaccine) against poliomyelitis came too late in the year to effect any degree of mass protection. The total inoculated during 1957 was 185 in the age groups 1947 to 1954. The total who came to be registered for vaccination by 30-4-58 in the extended groups (1943-1957) was 5,101. The question of the importation of vaccine from Canada and the United States was for the future.

Diphtheria and Diphtheria Immunisation.

To a doctor who has seen very large numbers of cases of this dread disease it is always a pleasure to report the absence of notified cases. Again, in 1957, there were no notified cases.

The work in diphtheria immunisation was held up in 1956 because of the presence of poliomyelitis in West Cumberland and the considered risk of the "provocative" paralytic form consequent on injection.

During 1957 a total of 381 children up to the age of fifteen were inoculated; 358 being under school age and 23 five years old or older. In addition 216 children received added protection by "booster" inoculation.

The three tables below relate to (a), the percentage number of children who have received inoculation at some time but are not necessarily fully protected; (b) these same inoculated children divided into two groups—"adequately" and "partially" protected—each being a percentage figure; and (c) immunisation state of the child population shown as an Immunity Index, which is derived from the number of "adequately" (i.e. inoculated within the last five years) protected, expressed as a percentage of the child population.

(a) Diphtheria Immunisation State.

Percentage number of children inoculated at some time, calculated on figures of child population (by local estimate since 1952).

Year	Children aged 0—5 years.	Children aged 5—15 years.
1947	26	64
1948	32	65
1949	37	81
1950	37	82
1951	40	84
1952	39	85
1953	40	91
1954	39	89
1955	39	89
1956	39	93
1957	42	91

(b) Protection Percentages in the Inoculated Group Itself—Adequate or Partial.

Year.	*Adequate.*	*Partial.*
1953	87	13
1954	67	33
1955	77	23
1956	80	20
1957	75	25

(c) Immunity Index—Percentage of Child Population Absolutely Protected.

	Age Groups				
Year.	Under 1 year.	2—4 years.	5—9 years.	10—14 years.	0—15 years.
1953	3%	49%	81%	69%	64%
1954	4%	49%	71%	38%	51%
1955	3%	50%	84%	49%	59%
1956	8%	48%	81%	62%	61%
1957	10%	52%	67%	58%	56%

On the whole the three tables reflect a position of regression. Whereas the very young have come forward as well as or slightly better than, in preceding years, not enough inoculation has been done in the school-age groups (including booster) to prevent a falling-off in "adequate" protection.

Smallpox Vaccination.

It is pleasing to note that the figures of vaccination against smallpox show a marked improvement on last year (78 primary and 24 re-vaccinations). In 1957 there were 158 primary vaccinations (including 112 in infants under 1 year of age) and 61 re-vaccinations.

Vaccination against Smallpox is now being offered at the Clinics.

A tabular summary of all notifications (other than Tuberculosis) follows.

Notification of Infectious Disease, 1957.

Disease	Total Number of cases	Age Groups: Under 1 year	1+	2+	3+	4+	5—9	10—14	15—24	25+	Admitted to Hospital	Died
Scarlet Fever	5		1		1	1	2				1	
Whooping - cough	27	2	2	2	4	2	14	1				
Measles	726	20	69	83	114	121	308	8	1	2		
Meningococcal Infection	1	1									1	
Dysentery	2					1				1		

		Under 5 years	5—14	15—44	45—64	65 and over						
Acute Pneumonia	16		2	7	5	2						9
Erysipelas	4			1	1	2						
Post Infective Encephalitis	1	1										
Puerperal pyrexia	37											
Chickenpox	39											

2. Tuberculosis.

(a) Prevention.

Vaccination against Tuberculosis is carried out by the Chest Physicians in contacts of the disease where indicated. The Local Health Authority offer testing and vaccination to all schoolchildren in their last year at school. During 1957 of 560 children in 13—14 year group attending Workington Schools 358 agreed to the procedure and were tested. Of this number 240 (approximately 43%) were "Mantoux negative", i.e., requiring protection, and were given B.C.G. vaccination. In addition 3 (only, out of 254) from the previous year were found to require further stimulus to the necessary state of preparedness to the disease, and were re-vaccinated at the Chest Clinic.

The early ascertainment of cases was continued by the employment of the Mass X-ray Unit which, in its circuit, carried out a total of 6,335 examinations. Out of this total 196 were recalled for more detailed examination and 5 were found to have active tuberculosis. In addition other diseases of the chest were elucidated or suspected and further investigated.

Housing.

Housing needs in the families of cases were considered, in each notified case seven families were re-housed.

(b) Incidence, Notification and Deaths.

At the figure of 39 there was one more notification in 1957 than in 1956. Thirty-three cases were of respiratory form and six were non-respiratory (including one case affecting the central nervous system). There were three deaths in adult males. The death-rate was 0.10 per 1,000 population as compared to the record low figure of 0.06 in 1956.

The tables which follow give (a) the Number of Deaths and Death-Rate; (b) Notifications and Deaths by Age Groups; (c) Treatment in Hospital; and (d) the position of total incidence as indicated by the Tuberculosis Register.

Tuberculosis—Workington.

Deaths and Death-Rate.

Years	No of deaths — Workington			Death Rate per 1,000 Pop.	
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total	Workington	England and Wales
1911-1915	27.3	4.8	42.1	1.69	1.41
1916-1920	21.8	13.4	35.2	1.25	1.48
1921-1925	17.4	6.6	24.0	0.88	1.08
1926-1930	18.2	8.2	26.4	1.01	0.94
1931-1935	22.8	8.0	30.8	1.19	0.81
1936-1940	20.0	5.4	25.4	0.92	0.67
1941-1945	19.7	5.9	25.6	0.86	0.66
1946-1950	17.2	1.8	19.0	0.67	0.48
1951-1955	9.0	0.8	9.8	0.34	0.22
1956	2	—	2	0.06	0.12
1957	3	—	3	0.10	0.10

Workington, 1957.

Tuberculosis —Notifications and Deaths.

Age Periods.	Notifications				Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1—5 ...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
5—10 ...		..	...	...	...	..	...	...
10—15 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15—20 ...	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
20—25 ...	3	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
25—35 ...	2	3	...	1	...	...	...	...
35—45 ...	5	1	...	1	...	...	...	
45—55 ...	7	3	...	1	1	.	...	...
55—65 ...	1		...	.	1	...	...	...
65 & over.	3	...	...	1	1		...	...
Total	23	10	...	6	3	..	...	...

Workington, 1957.

Tuberculosis—Hospital Treatment.

	In Hospital 1st. Jan. 1957.	Admitted. 1957	Discharged	Died	In Hospital 31st Dec. 1957.
Respiratory Cases					
Adult Males ...	8	3	7		4
Adult Females ..	8	8	8	...	8
Children ...	...	1	...	...	1
Non-Respiratory Cases					
Adult Males ...	...	...	...	..	...
Adult Females ...	...	1	...	...	1
Children ...	...	...	...	...	...
Observation Cases					
Adult Males ...	...	...	...	...	...
Adult Females ...	...	...	...	...	...
Children	...	..	...	...	..
TOTAL ...	16	13	15	...	14

Workington, 1957.

Tuberculosis Register.

On the 31st December, 1957, the number of cases remaining on the Register was as follows:—

Respiratory Cases.

Male	178	
Female	149	
Total		327

Non-Respiratory.

Male	35	
Female	52	
Total		87
Total on Register		414

3. Cancer.

The subject of Cancer is included in this section "Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and other Diseases". It is at present in the sub-category "Other Diseases". A statement of prevalence is simple: control over the disease is another matter. However, there is strong statistical evidence that one form, cancer of the lung, may be subject to control—control primarily exerted by the individual, or prevention by abstention. If it is admitted that cancer of the respiratory tract can be caused by smoking, even if not always so caused, it surely follows that adult addicts should show example to youth by abstention and to explain the evils inherent in the practice in their rôles as parent, teacher and medical officer.

The scroll of death in Workington in 1957 from Cancer, by sex and location of the disease, reads as follows:—

Location.	*Males.*	*Females.*	*Total.*
Stomach	5	4	9
Lung	15	1	16
Breast	—	6	6
Uterus	—	5	5
Other Sites	21	8	29
Total	41	24	65

In total this is two more cases than in 1956 with a greater concentration on the lung of six more cases in males. Thus nearly one-quarter of the deaths were due to cancer of the respiratory tract.

The mortality rate per 1,000 population from all forms of cancer was 2.2 (2.1 in 1956 and 2.3 in 1955). The range in age for males was 26 to 87 years (the youngest death being cancer of the lung) with an average age of 68. In females the range was 27 to 88 years with an average age also of 68.

APPENDIX

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Annual Report of Chief Public Health Inspector.

To J. L. Hunter, Esq., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

Sir,

I herewith submit the following statement showing the number and nature of inspections carried out during the year 1957, also the number of notices served and the various items dealt with:—

Caravans	65
Cinemas, Theatres, Clubs, Hotels	32
Complaints investigated	1087
Drainage inspections	364
Dwellinghouses:—	
Public Health Acts	451
Housing Acts	407
Re-inspections	1657
Dirty and/or Verminous Premises	179
Factories	180
Food Premises:—	
Butchers	121
Bakehouses	56
Fish Frying	49
Ice Cream	12
Dairies, Farms	19
Shops	387
Markets, Stalls, Carts	68
Infectious Diseases	12
Offensive Trades:—	
Tripe Boiling	3
Rag and Bone Merchants	7
Knacker Yard	22
Rats and Mice	492
Piggeries, Stables, Poultry	57
Shops Act, 1950	79
Smoke Nuisances	11
Refuse Collection and Disposal	372
Miscellanous	73
Rent Act	157
Total Inspections	6519

Notices Served

Informal Notices	451
Statutory Notices	19

At the end of the year 67 informal notices remained to be dealt with.

The attention of the Borough Surveyor was called to the following defects:—

Choked sewers or street gullies	30
Waste or poor pressure of water, defective stop taps, etc.	8
Repairs to Corporation property	19
Defects in public conveniences	2
Defective pavements, back lanes, etc.	4
Dangerous structures	2
Defective sewer ventilators	1
Street sweeping, etc.	8

Summary of Works carried out as a Result of Notices Served.

Drainage :—

Drains re-laid	15
Choked drains cleared	92
Inspection chambers provided	2
Gullies renewed	31
Ventilation pipes renewed	1

Sanitary Conveniences :—

Flushing cisterns repaired or renewed ...	29
W.C. basins renewed	14
Cone joints renewed	1
Additional W.C.s provided	3
Seats renewed	4
Doors repaired or renewed	22
Roofs repaired	12
Floors renewed	1
Soilpipes renewed	2
Light and ventilation improved	2
Walls repaired	5
Water pipes repaired	4
Insufficient water supply	10
Cleansed or limewashed	2

Yards and Outbuildings :—

Wash houses repaired	2
Accumulations removed	7
Yard Services relaid	2
Coal houses repaired	2
Yards to clean	3
Yard doors to renew or repair	4

Exterior of Houses :—

Chimney stacks repaired	12
Roofs repaired	38
Spouting cleansed or renewed	43
Pointing and rendering	4

Interior of Houses :—

Chimney flues repaired	11
Ceilings repaired or renewed	14
Floors repaired or renewed	16
Fireplaces or ovens repaired	11
Doors repaired	6
Wallplaster renewed	15
Windows repaired or renewed	12
Sashcords provided	21
Wastepipes renewed or repaired	7
Accumulations removed	11
Waterpipes renewed	7
Dampness remedied	46
Staircases repaired	2

Miscellaneous :—

Animals removed	7
Poultry removed	4
Caravans removed	20

Owing to the shortage of staff the number of inspections dropped to 6519, this being 2584 less than the previous year. The number of complaints received and investigated increased by 195 to 1087.

Many of the statutory duties were seriously affected, particularly visits to food premises, shops and factories.

Difficulty in getting repairs carried out still continues, and numerous interviews with owners, agents and builders have taken place. Our duties would be considerably lightened if owners took notice of their tenants' complaints. It is the duty of owners to see that their property is well maintained, and not to wait until notices are received from this Department.

The Rent Act, 1957, has only been operating some four months and it is too early to assess its ultimate value to Public Health Inspectors. It does appear that as the onus for repairs is placed squarely upon the shoulders of owners by their acceptance of rent increases, there should be a reduction of complaints and consequently less action required under the enforcement provisions of the Public Health and Housing Acts.

To the end of the year, 67 applications for certificates of disrepair were made to the Town Clerk's Department and each case was visited by the Public Health Inspectors. The number of applications was much less than anticipated, no doubt many tenants realising the rents previously paid were not economical to the owners and accepted the increases without demur.

Under the Act it was the duty of occupiers to prepare the schedule of defects for submission to the owners, and, as was envisaged, this task proved beyond the capacity of some. In many instances major defects had been omitted from the "G" form by the tenants and consequently could not be included in a certificate of disrepair, so additional action had to be taken by the Public Health Inspector under the Public Health or Housing Acts.

Verminous Premises.

The Department disinfested 163 houses for vermin, an increase of 68 as compared with the previous year.

Fluids and powders used for disinfestation work contain D.D.T. and Pyrethum, and for ant extermination 0.25% Thallium Sulphate is included.

Houses were treated for the following conditions:—

	Council Houses.	*Other Houses.*
Bugs	1	3
Fleas	4	6
Cockroaches	8	15
Ants	9	94
Silverfish	2	1
Redmite	2	—
Earwigs	7	—
Woodworm	2	—
Other conditions	3	6
	38	125

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

No serious rat or mice infestations have occurred. Special attention has been paid to gardens and piggeries, the latter being the chief source of complaint during the year.

The Corporation's sewers were test baited once during the year, and the refuse tips received weekly attention.

In addition to traps, prebaits used are sausage rusk and bread mash, and poisons used are warfarin, zinc phosphate and red squill.

Four hundred and ninety-two visits were made by the Public Health Inspectors, and the treatment service was carried out by the Department's handyman. The Corporation receive a grant from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food for carrying out duties under this Act.

Factories Act, 1937.

Number in Register	262
Inspections made	180
Notices served	6
Prosecutions	Nil
Outworkers	2
Classification of defects:—	
Want of cleanliness	3
Inadequate ventilation	—
Insufficent sanitary conveniences	—
Defective sanitary conveniences	6
Unreasonable temperature	1
Fire escape Certificate issued	1

The following is a classified list of trades carried on in the Borough:—

Aerated Waters	4
Paint Making, etc.	11
Corn Merchants	2
Printing, etc.	5
Rayon Manufacture	1
Gas Undertaking	2
Laundry	1
Dyers and Cleaners	3
Brewery	1
Quarrying	2
Weaving	3
Ice Cream	5
General Dealers	4
Building Trades	28
Wood Cutting and Working	29
Leather Working, Shoe Repairing, etc.	20
Monumental Masons	2
Collieries	2
Fur Manufacture	1
Tailoring, Cutting, etc.	14
Bakehouses	31
Food Preserving Premises	51
Light Engineering including Motor Repairs	19
Heavy Engineering	7
Electrical Undertaking	2
Plumbers, Gasfitters, etc.	10
Scale Repairing	2
	262

Food Inspection.

A regular inspection is made of all premises where food is stored, prepared or sold. The following foodstuffs were found unfit for human consumption:—

Tinned and Bottled Goods:—

Corned Beef (74 tins).
Pork (99 tins).
Tongue (40 tins).
Steak (30 tins).
Ham (69 tins).
Luncheon Meat (209 tins).
Beef (54 tins).
Chicken (15 tins).
Salmon (6 tins).
Pilchards (17 tins).
Crab (1 tin).
Shrimps (15 tins).
Peas (154 tins).
Beans (76 tins).
Tomatoes (113 tins).
Carrots (22 tins).
Pickles (1 jar).
Soup (30 tins).
Fruit Salad (29 tins).
Grapefruit (50 tins).
Peaches (62 tins).
Pears (103 tins).
Strawberries (4 tins).
Pineapple (117 tins).
Oranges (51 tins).
Plums (12 tins).
Apricots (3 tins).
Prunes (4 tins).
Milk (108 tins).
Cream (5 tins).
Rice (3 tins).
Salad Cream (1 jar).

Other Foods:—

Cake (4 lbs.).
Sausage (48 lbs.).

The approximate weight of foodstuffs condemned was 23 cwts.

In all cases Certificates were issued under the Food and Drugs Act to the respective vendors.

(Signed) RICHARD JAMES,
Chief Public Health Inspector.

Town Hall,
Workington.